



NEWS RELEASE

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For More Information, Contact:
Melissa Evans
Claims & Eligibility Administrator
Division of Children's Special
Health Services
North Dakota Department of Health
Phone: 701.328.2436
E-mail: mhevans@nd.gov

Children's Special Health Services Announces New Income Levels for Eligibility

BISMARCK, N.D. – Income eligibility guidelines for the North Dakota Children's Special Health Services (CSHS) Specialty Care Treatment Program have increased based on changes in the federal poverty levels. The change increases the amount of income a family can make and still qualify for services. Effective May 1, 2015, a family of four will be able to earn up to \$44,863 annually (or \$3,739 monthly for the household) and still meet income eligibility requirements, according to Melissa Evans, CSHS Claims and Eligibility Administrator with the North Dakota Department of Health.

Funded by the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Block Grant, CSHS provides services for children with special health care needs and their families and promotes family-centered, community-based, coordinated services and systems of health care. The Specialty Care Treatment Program helps pay for services that are needed to treat children with eligible medical conditions from birth to 21.

"Approximately one in seven children in North Dakota has a special health care need. Although many of these children may be covered by some type of health insurance, Children's Special Health Services acts as a gap-filler for over 100 medically eligible conditions and promotes access to quality health care," said Evans.

To qualify for CSHS Treatment Services, families must be North Dakota residents and meet medical and financial guidelines. To find out if their child qualifies, families can call their local county social services office or the state CSHS office at 1.800.755.2714.

For more information, contact Melissa Evans at 701.328.2436 or toll free at 1.800.755.2714.

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